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PATENTTI- REKISTERIHALLITUS

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VÄLIPÄÄTÖS Office Actor 02.05.2000

Oy Jalo Ant-Wuorinen Ab Iso Roobertinkatu 4-6 A 00120 Helsinki

Patenttihakemus nro:

19992085

Luokka:

C12N X

Hakija:

Galilaeus Oy

Asiamies:

Oy Jalo Ant-Wuorinen Ab

Asiamiehen viite:

31344

Määräpäivä:

02.11.2000 PW + TAVL

Patenttihakemuksen numero ja luokka on mainittava kirjelmässänne PRH:lle

Tarkastelun kohteena ovat olleet hakemuksenne selitysosa ja patenttivaatimukset, jotka on toimitettu 29.9.1999.

Suoritetussa patentoitavuustutkimuksessa ei ole tullut esille patentoitavuuden esteitä. Tunnettua tekniikan tasoa kuvaavina julkaisuina esitetään julkaisut: WPI An: 1996-209321, tiivistelmä julkaisusta WO-A-9610581, CO7K 14/36, Galilaeus Oy.

WPI An: 1996-209321, tiivistelmä julkaisusta WO-A-9610581, CO7K 14/36, Galilaeus Oy. WPI An: 1997-036800, tiivistelmä julkaisusta US-A-5843735, C12N 15/00, Lee et al. WPI An: 1992-349214, tiivistelmä julkaisusta WO-A-9216629, C12N 15/31, Leiras Oy.

Patenttivaatimuksia ei voida hyväksyä niiden nykyisessä muodossa seuraavista syistä johtuen.

Patenttivaatimukset 1 ja 3 ovat epätäsmällisiä (PL 8 § 2 mom., PM 5 § kohta 2). Tuotteeseen kohdistetussa vaatimuksessa tulisi tuote kuvata rakenteen perusteella, jos rakenne tunnetaan ja/tai viittaamalla mikro-organismitalletukseen, jos tuote on talletettu.

Vaatimuksessa 3 haetaan tuõtesuojaa DNA-fragmentille tai sen osalle. Vaatimuksen 3 ilmaisu-or)a part thereofr ei määrittele tuotetta riittävän selkeästi. Vaatimuksesta 3 tudisi käydä täsmällisemmin ilmi, mistä osista on kysymys. Myös ilmaisun -or a part thereof- määrittelemien DNA-jäksojen tulee olla teollisesti käyttökelpoisia ja niiden tulee perustua samoihin keksinnöllisiin piirteisiin kuin on vaatimusten 1-2 DNA-fragmentilla (ks. PL 10 S. PA 16 S).

Käyttövaatimus 6 on esitetty paljon laajemmassa muodossa luin hakemuksen selityksen nojalla on perusteltavissa, sillä selityksessä kuvattu DNA:n teollinen käyttö on käyttö aklasinomysiinin tuoton lisäämiseksi (vrt. vaatimus 7), (PL 8 § 2 mom., PM 5 § kohta/2).

Vaatimuksen 12 ilmaisu metabolites- on epätäsmällinen. Tätä ilmaisua tulisi täsmentää, jotta vaatimuksesta 12 kävisi selkeämmin ilmi yhteys tuotetun metaboliitin ja silyrettyyn DNA-fragmentin välillä (PL 8 § 2 mom.).

Teltä pyydetään toimittamaan vastineenne yhteydessä uudet patenttivaatimukset, jotka on laadittukoutaen huomioon edellä mainitut seikat.

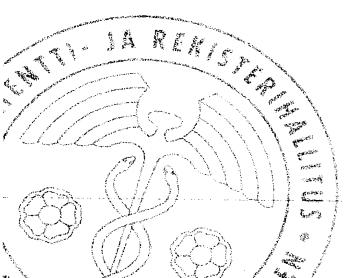
Teita pyydetään toimittamaan myös hakemuksenne selityksen ja patenttivaatimusten suomen- tai ruotsinkielinen käännös. Ensiksi annettu suomen- tai ruotsinkielinen selitys ja patenttivaatimukset on hakemuksenne perusasiakirja (PA 21 §). Niiden sisällön tulee selvästi vastata virastossa olevien englanninkielisten asiakirjojen sisältöä (PM 38 a § 4 mom).

Postiosoite: Pl 1160 00101 Helsinki

Katuosoite: Arkadiankatu 6 A 00100 Helsinki Puhelin: (09) 6939500 Telefax: (09) 69395328 Pankki: Leonia 800015-47908 Käännöksen tulee olla virastossa ennen kuin hakemus PL 22 §:n mukaan tulee julkiseksi ja sen mukana tulee olla hakijan tai hänen asiamiehensä vakuutus, että käännös vastaa alkuperäisiä asiakirjoja (PM 38 a § 3 mom).

PILIKE

Tutkijainsinööri Puhelin: (09) 69395348 Pirkko Karinen Bioteknologian tutkijat



Lausumanne huomautusten johdosta on annettava viimeistään yllämainittuna määräpäivänä. Jollette ole antanut lausumaanne virastoon viimeistään mainittuna määräpäivänä tai ryhtynyt toimenpiteisiin tässä välipäätöksessä esitettyjen puutteellisuuksien korjaamiseksi, jätetään hakemus sillensä (patenttilain 15 §). Sillensä jätetty hakemus otetaan uudelleen käsiteltäväksi, jos Te neljän kuukauden kuluessa määräpäivästä annatte lausumanne tai ryhdytte töimenpiteisiin esätettyjen puutteellisuuksien korjaamiseksi ja samassa ajassa suoritatte vahvistetun mäksun. 320 mk hakemuksen ottamisesta uudelleen käsiteltäväksi. Jos lausumanne on annettu viiastoon oikeassa ajassa, mutta esitettyjä puutteellisuuksia ei ole siten korjattu, että hakemus voitaisiin hyväksyä, se hylätään, mikäli virastolla ei ole aihetta antaa Teille uutta välipäätöstä (patenttilain 16 §). Uusi keksinnön selitys, siihen tehdyt lisäykset ja uudet patenttivaatimukset on aina jätettävä kahtena kappaleena ja tällöin on otettava huomioon patenttiasetuksen 19 §.

Postiosoite: Pl 1160 Katuosoite: Arkadiankatu 6 A Puhelin: (09) 6939500 Pankki: Leonia 00101 Helsinki 00100 Helsinki Telefax: (09) 69395328 800015-47908

- 2/2 (C) WPI / DERWENT
- AN 1996-209321 [21]
- AP W01995FI00537 19950929; US19970809740 19970327; [Based on W09610581]; W01995FI00537 19950929; AU19950036103 19950929; [Based on W09610581]; W01995FI00537 19950929; FI19970001308 19970327; EP19950933446 19950929; W01995FI00537 19950929; [Based on W09610581]; W01995FI00537 19950929; JP19960511427 19950929; [Based on W09610581]

PR - FI19940004556 19940930

- TI New DNA contg. genes involved in anthracycline biosynthesis from Streptomyces nogalater, used to produce anthracycline cpds. and their precursors, including new cpds. in other Streptomyces
- IW NEW DNA CONTAIN GENE ANTHRACYCLINE BIOSYNTHESIS STREPTOMYCES PRODUCE ANTHRACYCLINE COMPOUND PRECURSOR NEW COMPOUND STREPTOMYCES
- IN HAKALA J; MANTSALA P; YLIHONKO K; MAENTSAELAE P
- PA (GALI-N) GALILAEUS OY
- PN US5986077 A 19991116 DW200001 C07H21/04 000pp
  - WO9610581 A1 19960411 DW199621 C07K14/36 Eng 058pp
  - AU3610395 A 19960426 DW199631 C07K14/36 000pp
  - FI9701308 A 19970327 DW199725 C07K0/00 000pp
  - EP0792285 A1 19970903 DW199740 C07K14/36 Eng 000pp
  - JP10506533T T 19980630 DW199836 C12N15/09 059pp
- ORD 1996-04-11
- IC C07H21/04 ; C07K0/00 ; C07K14/36 ; C12N15/09 ; C12N15/31 ; C12N15/76 ; C12P1/04 ; C12P15/00 ; C12P19/56
- FS CPI
- DC B05 D16
- DS AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE LI
- DN AU CA CZ FI HU JP KR NO RU US
- CT 2.Jnl.Ref; WO9216629
- AB W09610581 New isolated and purified DNA fragment (A) is a gene fragment of the anthracycline biosynthesis pathway of Streptomyces nogalater and is present in the actI-hybridising 12kb BglII fragment of the S.nogalater genome. Also new are (1) recombinant DNA construct contg. (A); and (2) the new anthracycline precursor of formula (I).
  - USE (A) is used, after transfer into a foreign Streptomyces strain, for prodn. of anthracyclines and their precursors, esp. auramycinone and its glycoside (useful as cytostatic agents).
  - ADVANTAGE (A) makes possible prodn. of hybrid anthracyclines and precursors (including new cpds.), even in Streptomyces that do not normally produce them.
  - (Dwg.3/7)
- USAB- US5986077 New isolated and purified DNA fragment (A) is a gene fragment of the anthracycline biosynthesis pathway of Streptomyces nogalater and is present in the actI-hybridising 12kb BglII fragment of the S.nogalater genome. Also new are (1) recombinant DNA construct contg. (A); and (2) the new anthracycline precursor of formula (I).
  - USE (A) is used, after transfer into a foreign Streptomyces strain, for prodn. of anthracyclines and their precursors, esp. auramycinone and its glycoside (useful as cytostatic agents).
  - ADVANTAGE (A) makes possible prodn. of hybrid anthracyclines and precursors (including new cpds.), even in Streptomyces that do not normally produce them.

- 1/2 (C) WPI / DERWENT
  - AN 1997-036800 [04]
  - AP JP19950139986 19950515 JP19950139986 19950515; [Previous Publ. J08214886] US19950551211 19951031
  - PR KR19950001950 19950203
  - TI DNA encoding aclavinone C-11 hydroxylase useful for prodn. of new hybrid anthracycline antibiotic, designated aclacinomycin X
  - IW DNA ENCODE HYDROXYLASE USEFUL PRODUCE NEW HYBRID ANTHRACYCLINE ANTIBIOTIC DESIGNATED ACLACINOMYCIN
  - IN HONG S; HONG Y; HWANG C; KIM H; KIM Y; LEE J
  - PA (KORE-N) KOREA RES INST CHEM TECHNOLOGY
    - (NITT-N) NITTO SEIYAKU KK
    - (ILDO-N) IL-DONG PHARM CO LTD
    - (KOAD ) KOREA ADV INST SCI & TECHNOLOGY
  - PN JP8214886 A 19960827 DW199704 C12N15/09 020pp
    - JP2731367B2 B2 19980325 DW199817 A61K31/71 019pp
    - US5843735 A 19981201 DW199904 C12N15/00 000pp
  - ORD 1996-08-27
  - IC A61K31/71 ; C07H15/252 ; C07H21/04 ; C12N1/21 ; C12N9/02 ; C12N9/14 ;
    C12N15/00 ; C12N15/09 ; C12P19/60 ; C12P21/06
  - FS CPI
  - DC B04 D16
  - AB J08214886 A gene (I) encoding aclavinone C-11 hydroxylase is claimed.
    Also claimed are: (1) aclavinone C-11 hydroxylase having the 489 amino acid sequence (given in the specification); (2) a vector contg. (I);
    (3) a host cell transformed by the above plasmid; and (4) an anthracycline type cpd. designated aclacinomycin X: (II).
    - USE The vector contg. (I) is useful, when expressed by a transformed host cell, for the prodn. of a hybrid anthracycline antibiotic which is absent in the wild type microbe.
    - (Dwg.0/17)
  - USAB- US5843735 A gene (I) encoding aclavinone C-11 hydroxylase is claimed. Also claimed are: (1) aclavinone C-11 hydroxylase having the 489 amino acid sequence (given in the specification); (2) a vector contg. (I); (3) a host cell transformed by the above plasmid; and (4) an anthracycline type cpd. designated aclacinomycin X: (II).
    - USE The vector contg. (I) is useful, when expressed by a transformed host cell, for the prodn. of a hybrid anthracycline antibiotic which is absent in the wild type microbe.

- 2/2 (C) WPI / DERWENT AN - 1992-349214 [13]
  - AP W01992FI00084 19920323; FI19910001441 19910325; AU19920014461 19920323; W01992FI00084 19920323; [Based on W09216629]; FI19910001441 19910325; [Previous Publ. FI9101441]
  - PR FI19910001441 19910325
  - TI Hybrid anthracycline antibiotic DNA from Streptomyces purpurascens obtd. by hybridisation with S. galilaeus DNA, useful for prodn. of antibiotics difficult to produce by other means.
  - IW HYBRID ANTHRACYCLINE ANTIBIOTIC DNA STREPTOMYCES OBTAIN HYBRID GALILAEUS DNA USEFUL PRODUCE ANTIBIOTIC DIFFICULT PRODUCE
  - IN HAKALA J; KOPIO A; LAMPI K; NIEMI J; PAERSSINEN R; YLIHONKO K
  - PA (LEIR-N) LEIRAS OY
  - PN WO9216629 A1 19921001 DW199242 C12N15/31 Eng 053pp
    - FI9101441 A 19920926 DW199251 C12P19/56 000pp
    - AU1446192 A 19921021 DW199303 C12N15/31 000pp
    - FI93860B B 19950228 DW199513 C12P19/56 000pp
  - ORD 1992-09-26
  - IC C07H15/252 ; C12N1/21 ; C12N15/11 ; C12N15/31 ; C12N15/76 ; C12P19/56
  - FS CPI
  - DC B05 D16
  - DS AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IT LU MC NL SE
  - DN AU CA HU JP KR NO RU US
  - CT 4.Jnl.Ref; EP0131181; EP0298385; EP0299350; EP0050724
  - AB W09216629 Sequence (I) has been isolated by:- (a) isolating a DNA fragment that hybridises with the actIO.8 probe from S. galilaeus; and (b) using the fragment in the hybridisation of S. purpurascens. When transferred to a S. galilaeus host, which naturally produces glycosides of aklavinone, produces anthracyclines not naturally synthesised. Recombinant DNA construct comprises a vector contg. (I), amplified in micro-organisms of the genus Streptomyces; Streptomyces strain contains construct prodn. of hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline gp. comprises growing strain under pref. conditions and sepg. antibiotics from the growth medium and purifying.
    - USE/ADVANTAGE Developed for opt. clinical use(Dwg.1/9)



F 1000093860B



#### (B) (11) KUULUTUSJULKAISU UTLAGGNINGSSKRIFT

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Patenttl myUnnetty Patent meddelat 12 06 1000

(51) Kv.1k.6 - Int.cl.6

C 12P 19/56, C 12N 15/11, 15/76, 1/21, C 07H 15/252

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6. Lampi, Klaus, Rusthollinkatu 4 I, 20880 Turku, (FI)

(74) Asiamies - Ombud: Oy Jalo Ant-Huorinen Ab

(54) Keksinnön nimitys - Uppfinningens benämning

Menetelmä antibioottien tuottamiseksi, siinä käyttökelpoisia DNA-jaksoja, yhdistelmä-DNA-konstruktioita ja näitä sisältäviä mikrobikantoja Förfarande för att producera antibiotika, däri användbara DXA-sekvenser, hybrid-DXA-konstruktioner och dessa innehållande mikrobstammar

(83) Mikro-organismitalletus - Deposition av mikroorganism: 6403 DSH 6404 DSH

(56) Viitejulkaisut - Anförda publikationer

DD C 284694 (C 12N 15/76), US A 3988315 (C 07H 15/24), US A 4375511 (C 12N 1/00), DD C 284694 (C 12N 15/76), US A 3988315 (C U/M 15/24), US A 43/3311 (C 12N 1/00), US A 4209588 (C 12P 19/56), J. Bacteriology 172 (9) (1990) 4816-4826 (Bartel et al.), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 84 (1987) 4445-4449 (Motamedi et al.), Abstr. Annu. Meet. Am. Soc. Microbiol. 1988 tiivistelmä 215 (Bartel et al.), Nature 314 (1985) 642-644 (Hopwood et al.), Nature 325 (1987) 818-821 (Malpartida et al.), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86 (1989) 3135-3139 (Stutzman-Engwall et al.)

(57) Tiivistelmä – Sammandrag

Keksinnön kohteena on menetelmä, jossa tunnettujen Streptomyces-suvun mikro-organismien avulla, siirtämällä niihin määrättyjä geenejä tietyistä, rakenteeltaan lähisukuisia antibiootteja tuottavista mikrobikannoista, tuotetaan bioteknisesti sellaisia antrasykliiniryhmän antibiootteja, joita nämä mikro-organismit eivät luontaisesti tuota. Keksinnön kohteena ovat myös tällaiseen menetelmään tarvittavat yhdistelmä-DNA-tekniikalla muodostetut mikro-organismit, yhdistelmä-DNA-konstruktiot ja niissä tarvittavat DNA-jaksot. Keksintö sijoittuu antibioottien bioteknistä tuottoa käsittelevälle alalle, ja koskee hybridiantibioottitekniikan soveltamista antrasykliiniryhmän antibiootteihin.

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(30) Priority data:

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): LEIRAS OY [F1/F1]; Pansiontie 45-47, SF-20210 Turku (F1).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): N1EMI, Jarmo [FI/FI]; Karvetinkatu 3 as 21, SF-21110 Naantali 2 (FI). HAKA-LA, Juha [FI/FI]; Elinantie 2 A, SF-20540 Turku (FI). KOPIO, Anja [FI/FI]; Tähkäpolku 2 B 37, SF-20720 Turku (FI). PÄRSSINEN, Raimo [FI/FI]; Kappeliranta, SF-21610 Kirjala (FI). YLIHONKO, Kristiina [FI/FI]; P. Katariinantie 8 B 19, SF-20780 Kaarina (FI). LAMPI, Klaus [FI/FI]; Rusthollinkatu 4 I, SF-20880 Turku (FI).

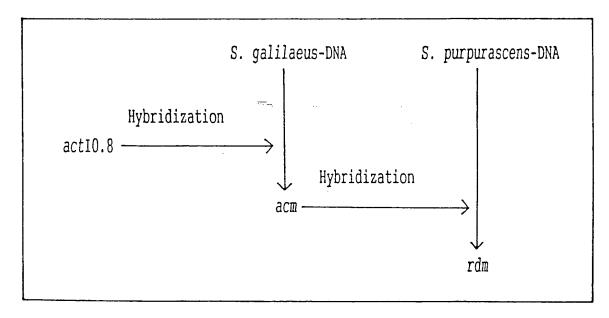
(74) Agent: OY JALO ANT-WUORINEN AB; Laivurinrinne 2 A, SF-00120 Helsinki (FI).

(81) Designated States: AT (European patent), AU, BE (European patent), CA, CH (European patent), DE (European patent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), GR (European patent), HU, IT (European patent), JP, KR, LU (European patent), MC (European patent), NL (European patent), NO, RU, SE (European patent), US.

#### Published

With international search report. With amended claims. In English translation (filed in Finnish).

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ANTIBIOTICS, DNA-SEQUENCES, RECOMBINANT-DNA-CON-STRUCTS AND MICROBIAL STRAINS USED THEREIN



#### (57) Abstract

The invention concerns a process according to which by means of known microorganisms of the *Streptomyces*-genus, by transferring into them specific genes from certain microbial strains which produce structurally closely related antibiotics, such antibiotics of the anthracycline group are biotechnically produced, which these microorganisms do not produce naturally. The invention concerns also microorganisms needed in such a process and formed by recombinant-DNA-technology, recombinant-DNA-constructions and DNA-sequences needed therein. The invention belongs to the field of biotechnical production of antibiotics and relates to the application of hybrid antibiotic technology to antibiotics of the anthracycline group.

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ES	Spain	MG	Madagascar		

Process for the production of antibiotics, DNA-sequences, recombinant-DNA-constructs and microbial strains used therein

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The present invention concerns a process by which, by means of known microorganisms, by transferring into them specific genes from certain microbial strains which produce structurally closely related antibiotics, such antibiotics of the anthracycline group are biotechnically produced, which these microorganisms do not produce naturally. The invention concerns also microorganisms needed in such a process and formed by recombinant-DNAtechnology, recombinant-DNA-constructions and DNA-sequences needed therein. The invention belongs to the field of biotechnical production of antibiotics and relates to the application of hybrid antibiotic technology to antibiotics of the anthracycline group.

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Molecules, which in the same molecule have structural features from two such antibiotics which are not produced naturally by one microorganism, are called hybrid antibiotics. Such molecules can in principle, and in some cases also in practice be produced by biotransformation, i.e. by giving an antibiotic, produced by one microorganism, to another microbe which converts the molecule. The use of the term is, however, established to mean the fact that biosynthetic genes of one antibiotic are transferred by recombinant-DNA-technology into a microbe producing another antibiotic, and thus the latter microbe is made to produce antibiotics, which it does not itself, nor the gene donor strain produce naturally. The hybrid antibiotics technique is described e.g. in H. G. Floss (Trends in Biotechnology, Vol. 5, 1987, pages 111-115), "Hybrid antibiotics - the contribution of the new gene

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combinations" and in the references given therein.

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An antibiotic molecule is formed in a microorganism, which produces it by an enzymatic reaction cascade including typically from 10 to 20 enzymes. The first enzymes in the chain use as their substrates the normal intermediates of the cell metabolism, but as the molecule proceeds in the reaction chain, usually various rather exotic structural features are formed therein, when considering the matter on the basis of the so called primary metabolism. An important characteristic from the point of view of obtaining hybrid antibiotics is the fact that these enzymes are believed to have relatively minor substrate specificity, i.e. that they are able to use as their substrate also compounds which differ as to their structure from those which are found in the original microbe.

Another important characteristic, which has been shown in the microbial genus Streptomyces by the studies of the biosynthetic genetics of antibiotics, is the fact that the biosynthetic genes of an antibiotic are clustered which means that they exist in the microbial DNA close to each other. This has in many cases made it possible to isolate other genes, which participate in the biosynthesis of the antibiotic, one gene participating in the biosynthesis having been identified by some procedure.

The anthracyclines are a broad group of compounds having the common skeletal structure of 7,8,9,10-tetrahydro-5,12-naphthacene quinone of the general formula I

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In typical anthracyclines, various substituents are linked to this skeletal structure, the most important group of which are formed by some sugar derivatives. Several of the substances of the anthracycline group are in use as cytostatic drugs in the treatment of cancer, such as e.g. daunorubicin, doxorubicin and aclarubicin. Antibiotics of the anthracycline group are presented e.g. in the article of A. Fujiwara and T. Hoshino: "Anthracycline antibiotics" (CRC Critical Reviews in Biotechnology, vol. 3, 1986, pages 133-157) and in the references cited therein. The anthracyclines belong to the antibiotics with a so-called polyketide structure.

The relatively complex structure of the anthracyclines

15 has retarded the development of novel compounds with

better characteristics. It has been possible to prepare

synthetically a large group of anthracyclines, but

screening of microorganisms belonging mainly to the genus

Streptomyces from the soil has also formed an important

20 source of new anthracyclines. This procedure is not

satisfactory, because it does not make it possible to

convert the anthracycline structure systematically, but

discovery of new anthracyclines is random.

25 The principle of hybrid antibiotics seems to make it possible to convert the anthracycline structure systematically. Despite of the fact that the first hybrid antibiotics were described in 1985 (Hopwood et al., 1985b), only few successful experiments for obtaining hybrid antibiotics have been described so far. Hutchinson et al. (1989) list four publications wherein a successful process for producing hybrid antibiotics is described. They show several facts which may prevent the obtaining of hybrid antibiotics: Some hosts cannot possibly be transformed with foreign DNA because of restriction or expression bars, foreign genes may, due to the control

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sequences which they comprise, prevent the host from producing antibiotics, the hybrid antibiotic produced may be toxic to the host, and the expression of transferred genes may demand control factors, which maybe are not present in the host. Hereto can be added the general problem that the genes, which in the donor participate in the biosynthesis of the antibiotics, are to be identified and distinguished from other genes. Finally, the substrate specificity of the enzymes, the encoding genes of which are transferred, may, however, be so strict that the substrates provided by the host are not converted to new compounds.

Consequently, although it can be anticipated, that by
transferring genes participating in the biosynthesis from
one Streptomyces to another, new compounds could be
obtained, it cannot be concluded in advance, what is
obtained and if the experiment is successful in general.
Thus, the identification of such a gene sequence and the
construction of a recombinant-DNA-constructionion with
which, by using a suitable host, hybrid antibiotics are
obtained successfully, forms a significant and industrially useful invention.

We have now invented a process according to which certain microorganisms of the genus Streptomyces producing anthracyclines are made to produce anthracycline antibiotics new to them. We have transferred into them DNA-sequences which can be identified according to the manner described hereafter and which originate from rhodomycin producing microorganisms belonging to the species Streptomyces purpurascens, as a suitable recombinant-DNA-construction and using recombinant-DNA-technology.

Our aim to find DNA-sequences with which hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline group could be obtained was based on the finding of Malpartida et al. (1987) that the

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biosynthetic genes of antibiotics having the polyketide structure have significant similarities, which may make it possible to isolate biosynthetic genes of other polyketide antibiotics, when a certain probe of biosynthetic genes of one polyketide antibiotic is available, comprising a DNA-sequence which is similar between different species, which probe is used in DNA hybridization techniques. However, by this procedure biosynthetic genes cannot be found reliably, but e.g. Stutzman-Engwall and Hutchinson (1989) found by this procedure from S. peucetius five different gene regions containing domains homological to actI probe: from these only one has been shown to include the biosynthetic genes of doxorubicin. It is to be noted that the acm probe described hereafter identifies from S. peucetius exactly this gene region of five possible regions.

On the basis of the published data it is characteristic to the biosynthesis of different anthracyclines that in the biosynthesis first an anthracycline aglycone called aklavinone is formed, wherefrom other anthracyclines are formed as a result of the activity of various modifying enzymes. Consequently, we came to the conclusion that a suitable host microbe, after transfer into which the expression of these modifying enzymes could be detected, would be a *Streptomyces* strain producing aklavinone glycosides. Suitable microbe strains proved to be *Streptomyces galilaeus* ATCC 31615 and ATCC 31133.

When selecting the microbial strain, wherefrom we would try to transfer the genes of the modifying enzymes, we decided on the *Streptomyces purpurascens* microbial species, because it is supposed to have several enzyme activities which modify the aglycone moiety, namely the activities modifying the positions 1, 10 and 11, and especially modifications concerning the position 10

seemed to be lacking among the known aglycones. Consequently, the gene donor strain was selected to be S. purpurascens ATCC 25489, which is a type strain of the species S. purpurascens.

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The strategy, which led to the finding of the DNA sequences described in this application, was thus the following: A region homologous to the actI region described by Malpartida et al. is isolated from S. purpurascens, DNA sequences from the region surrounding it are transferred to S. galilaeus, the recombinant-DNA-strains so obtained are cultivated under conditions in which the host strain naturally produces an antibiotic, and the antibiotics produced are analyzed to show if any of the DNA sequences cause production of new compounds. As a probe the moiety of the above mentioned actI region was used, which is marked actIO.8.

When the actIO.8 probe was hybridized to the S. galilaeus 20 and S. purpurascens DNA transferred to membranes by the Southern technique, it was found that S. galilaeus DNA gave a distinct signal, which corresponded to a BamHI fragment of ca 3 kb. S. purpurascens gave on the other hand a fairly weak signal, which corresponded to a BamHI 25 fragment of ca 8 kb. As difficulties in the cloning of genes can occur by weak cross hybridization, the biosynthetic genes of S. purpurascens were isolated by isolating first the DNA sequence corresponding to the actI from S. galilaeus and using then this as a probe, 30 assuming that it would give a better hybridization signal as it is a biosynthetic fragment of a structurally closer antibiotic (Figure 1).

The region homologous with act 10.8 isolated from S.

35 galilaeus, which was marked acm, proved to be a very

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useful probe when isolating at least some biosynthetic genes of anthracyclines. In addition to the genes described in this application which led to hybrid antibiotics, this probe recognized from *S. peucetius* specifically the biosynthetic genes of doxorubicin, which were described by Stutzman-Engwall and Hutchinson (1989).

When the Southern hybridization was repeated using the acm probe, S. purpurascens DNA was found to give a distinct hybridization signal, which corresponded to a BamHI fragment of ca 8 kb. Around the DNA sequence giving this signal several DNA sequences were isolated, which were transferred into S. galilaeus by a procedure similar to that described hereafter in the experimental part. However, from the DNA sequences tested only the sequence according to the invention caused production of new compounds.

The strains according to the invention can be reproduced 20 according to the following description; in addition, the reproducibility of the invention has been secured by depositing the crucial microbial strains and plasmids in a depository according to the Budapest treaty. It is obvious to a man skilled in the art that the process 25 steps used in the recombinant DNA techniques are known as such, but the inventive step lies in the fact that these steps are carried out according to a specific strategy to give a new result. It is also obvious to a man skilled in the art that for carrying out individual steps, alterna-30 tive processes have often been described, by which the steps given in this description can be replaced by using good professional skill.

The present invention thus relates to a process for producing hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline group which process comprises

- isolating from a Streptomyces purpurascens strain producing anthracyclines a DNA sequence leading to the expression of hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline group,

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- constructing a recombinant-DNA-construction comprising the said DNA sequence,
- transforming the recombinant-DNA-construction obtained to a *Streptomyces galilaeus* host producing aklavinone glycosides,
- cultivating the transformed strain obtained under conditions wherein the host strain naturally produces an antibiotic, and
  - recovering the hybrid antibiotic as formed.

The present invention also relates to the said DNA sequences isolated from the bacterium Streptomyces purpurascens, which lead to the production of the hybrid antibiotics as described.

25 by ligating such a DNA sequence according to the invention to a suitable vector, which is preferably a vector amplifying in microorganisms of genus Streptomyces, e.g. the plasmid pIJ486 (Ward et al., 1986). When such a recombinant-DNA-construction is transformed to a S. gali-30 laeus host, preferably to a host, which produces aklavinone glycosides, especially to the above mentioned S. galilaeus strains, a Streptomyces strain producing antibiotics of the anthracycline group is obtained.

35 The compounds produced are new anthracycline antibiotics, for which cytostatic activity has been shown (Example

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12). Thus the compounds of the present invention are interesting compounds to be further developed for possible clinical use. The production of the said compounds by some other process than the fermentation of a hybrid strain is very difficult.

In the following the isolation of the DNA sequences of the invention from the S. purpurascens strain ATCC 25489, the production of the hybrid antibiotics by the strain as obtained, and the purification and structural analysis of the aglycone moieties of the hybrid antibiotics as produced are given in detail as an example of the preferred embodiments of the invention. Detection of this DNA sequence leading to the hybrid production of ATCC 25489 can be made on the basis of the characteristics as described, but also from the fact that it comprises the following nucleotide sequence beginning from the fourth BamHI recognition site from the left in the restriction map (Figure 3):

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- GATCCCTATG CCAGAGCACC GTCAGCAACG GGCNCTCCGC ATGGGCGTGA
- TCGGCACGGC GAACATCGCG ATTCGCCGGA TCATGCCCGT GCNCNCCGCG
- CATGACCACG TCGACCTTGT CGCGGTGGCC AGCCGGGACA AGGCCCGGGC 101
- 151 CGAGCGGGTG GGGGCCGCTT TCGGCTGCGG TGGCGTGGGG GATTACGCGG
  - CGCTCGTCGA GCGGACGACC TTGACNCGTC TATATTCCGC TGCCGCCCGG 201
  - CATGCATCAC GAGTGGGCGC TGCGGGCTTT GCGTTCGGGA AAGCACGTGC 251
  - TGGTCGAGAA ACCGATGTCG GACACGTACG AGAAAACTCT CGAGCTGATG 301
- TCGACCGCGT CGGAACTCGG ACTCGTGCTC GCCGAGAACT TCATGTTCCT 30 351
  - GCACCATTCC CAGCACGCNG CGGTACNNCG ATGCTCGACG AGTCCGTGGG 401
  - AGAACTGCGG CTCTTCTCCN GNNCGTTCNC CGTNNGCCGC TGGCACCCGA 451
  - GTGTTCCGGT ACCAG 501

in which N refers to one or more nucleotides which have not been identified.

#### Brief description of the drawings

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- Fig. 1 A schematic presentation of the procedure, by which the region homological to the conserved region actI of the biosynthetic genes of the polyketide antibiotics was recognized in S. purpurascens-DNA.
- Fig. 2 The restriction map of the plasmid pIJ2345.
- Fig. 3 The restriction map of the rdm-clones cloned from S. purpurascens and the part of the chromosome covered by them. The region recognized by the acm-probe is marked as shaded.
  - Fig. 4 The restriction map of the plasmid pH2008.

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- Fig. 5 The thin layer of the fractions obtained when fractioning the aglycon mixture.
- Fig. 6 The proton-NMR-spectrum and structure of Aglycon IV
  - Fig. 7 The mass spectrum of Aglycon IV (chemical ionization, negative ions)
- 30 Fig. 8 The proton-NMR-spectrum of the hybrid glyc-coside IVT
  - Fig. 9 The mass spectrum of the hybrid glycoside IVT

### Solutions and growth media used

	SGYEME	per litre	
•	Yeast extract (Difco)	3 g	
	Bacto-peptone (Difco)	5 g	
	Malt extract (Oxoid)	3 g	
	Glucose	10 g	
	Sucrose	100 g	
	Sterilize by autoclaving add 2 ml of sterile 2M Mg of sterile 10% glycine so	${ m gCl}_2$ solution per litr	
	LYSOZYME SOLUTION		
	Sucrose		0.3 M
	Tris (tris-hydroxymethyl	aminomethane) pH 8	25 mM
	EDTA (ethylenediaminotet	raacetic acid) pH 8	25 mM
	Lysozyme (Sigma)		2 mg/ml
	PHENOL MIXTURE		
	Phenol (Ultrapure, Gibco	BRL) 500 g	ı
	8-hydroxyquinoline	0.5 g	ſ
	Saturate by 50 mM Tris-H	ICl buffer, pH 8.	
	"2 * KIRBY MIXTURE"		
	Sodium-tri-isopropylnaph	nthalenesulphonate (Fl	uka) 2 g
	Sodium-4-aminosalicylate		12 g
	2M Tris-HCl buffer pH 8		5 ml
	Phenol mixture		6 ml
	H <sub>2</sub> O ad.		100 ml

#### PHENOL-CHLOROFORM

	Phenol mixture	50	ml
	Chloroform	50	ml
5	Isoamyl alcohol	1	ml

ΤE

Tris-HCl buffer, pH 8.0 10 mM 10 EDTA, pH 8.0 1 mM

SSC

Various dilutions are used, as e.g. 2 \* SSC, 6 \* SSC etc., which are prepared from the basic solution 20 \* SSC:

20 \* SSC per litre

20 NaCl 175.3 g
Na-citrate 88.2 g

Adjust pH to 7 with NaOH; sterilize by autoclaving.

DENHARDT'S SOLUTION (Maniatis et al., p. 448)

Basic solution 50 \*:

Ficoll® (Pharmacia) 5 g
Polyvinyl pyrrolidone 5 g

Bovine serum albumin 5 g
Distilled water ad. 500 ml

Filter through 0.45  $\mu m$  sterile filter, divide to 5 ml aliquots and store in freezer -20 °C.

#### El GROWTH MEDIUM

#### Per litre:

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	Glucose	20	g
	Soluble starch	20	g
	Pharmamedia®	5	g
	Yeast extract	2.5	g
10	$K_2HPO_4 \cdot 3 H_2O$	1.3	g
	$MgSO_4 \cdot 7 H_2O$	1	g
	NaCl	3 g	
	CaCO <sub>3</sub>	3 g	

15 Mix with tap water and adjust pH to 7.5 with NaOH. Sterilize by autoclaving.

#### EXAMPLE 1. Preparation of the probe

- The probe actI described in the Malpartida et al. publication i.e. the 2.2 kb (kilobase, thousand base pairs, the unit of measurement of the molecule length of DNA)

  BamHI fragment derived from the actI region in the vector pBR329 = pIJ2345, was\_obtained from professor D. A.
- 25 Hopwood (John Innes Institute, Norwich, UK). A 0.8 kb BglII-fragment was used as the probe. The restriction map of the plasmid pIJ2345 is given in Fig. 2.
- E. coli strain W 5445 carrying the plasmid pIJ2345 was grown, the plasmid was isolated therefrom by neutral SDS degradation (Maniatis et al., p. 92) and the plasmid was purified by centrifuging in a cesium chloride-ethidium bromide gradient (Hopwood et al. 1985a, p. 83, steps 17-21). The plasmid fraction from the gradient was ex-
- tracted with isopropanol and precipitated with ethanol (Hopwood et al. 1985a, p. 127).

The 0.8 kb BglII fragment was isolated by digesting the pIJ2345-plasmid prepared above, by BglII endonuclease (Boehringer Mannheim or New England Biolabs) according to the instructions of the manufacturer, and by separating the fragment from the rest of the plasmid by preparative agarose gel electrophoresis (Hopwood et al. 1985a, p. 137). The fragment cut away from the gel was purified from the agarose using the GeneClean reagent kit (Bio 101) according to the instructions of the manufacturer.

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About 100 ng of the isolated probe fragment was labelled with  $\alpha^{32}P$ -deoxyadenosine phosphate (New England Nuclear NEG-021H, 3000 Ci/mmol) for the hybridization, using the random prime labelling reagent kit of Boehringer Mannheim according to the instructions of the manufacturer. The labelled DNA was separated from the radioactive nucleotide in a Nick column (Pharmacia) according to the instructions of the manufacturer.

## 20 EXAMPLE 2. Isolation of the total DNA from the Streptomyces strains

The Streptomyces strains ATCC 31615 and ATCC 25489 were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection. In order to isolate the total DNA they were grown in 50 ml of SGYEME medium in 250 ml erlenmeyer flasks, which were shaken at 250 rpm at 28.5 °C for ca 50 hours.

The total DNA was isolated in the following manner, which is a modification of that described by Hopwood et al. (Hopwood et al. 1985a, p. 77).

The culture was separated by centrifuging for 10 min at ca 3000 g, resuspended in 3 ml of lysozyme solution and incubated for 10 min in a 37 °C water bath. 4 ml of "2 \*

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Kirby mixture" reagent was added and stirred carefully by turning around the tube for ca 1 min.

8 ml of phenol-chloroform was added, stirred as above and centrifuged for 10 min at ca 3000 g. The upper water phase from the tube was transferred with a pipette with an open tip to another test tube, which contained 3 ml of phenol-chloroform and stirred and centrifuged as above. The water phase was transferred to another test tube with a pipette with an open tip, 3M sodium acetate, the pH of which had been adjusted to 6 with acetic acid, was added in the amount of 1/10 of the volume of the water phase, and the mixture was stirred. Thereafter an equal amount of isopropanol was carefully pipetted on the top of the water phase and the high molecular DNA, which precipitated at the interface of the water and isopropanol phases, was carefully "spinned" around a sterile glass rod. The glass rod with its DNA precipitate was transferred to another test tube, which contained 7 ml of 70% ethanol, the precipitate was released from the glass rod into an empty test tube and it was desiccated in a vacuum desiccator for 5-10 min. The DNA was dissolved in 1-2 ml of TE. The concentration and molecular size thereof was measured by running an agarose gel electrophoresis (Hopwood et al. 1985a, p. 136, buffer TAE, 0.3 - 0.6 % agarose 4 V/cm).

#### EXAMPLE 3. Southern-hybridization

-30 Transfer of the DNA to the hybridization membrane

The Streptomyces DNA preparations isolated above were digested with BamHI endonuclease (Boehringer Mannheim or New England Biolabs) according to the instructions of the manufacturer, and the digests were fractionated by agarose gel electrophoresis (Hopwood et al. 1985a, p. 137, TAE buffer, 0.8% agarose, 0,5 V/cm, running time 16 hours).

The fractionated DNA was transferred from the gel to Hybond N membrane (Amersham) using the VacuGen apparatus (LKB 2016, Pharmacia LKB Biotechnology) according to the instructions of the manufacturer (Preliminary Instruction Manual, LKB 2016 VacuGene Vacuum Blotting System, n:o 90 02 5378, Pharmacia LKB Biotechnology AB, Bromma, Sweden) with the modifications that depurination was performed for 10 min (in the instructions 4 min), denaturation for 15 min (3 min), neutralization for 15 min (3 min) and transferring for 1 h (20-60 min). The membrane, onto which the DNA had been transferred, was washed with 2 \* SSC, dried in room temperature and exposed to UV for 2 minutes by LKB 2011 Macro Vue Transilluminator (Pharmacia LKB Biotechnology) in order to fix the DNA.

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#### Hybridization

The membranes to be hybridized were enclosed in a plastic bag (Hybaid) by heat-sealing. About 50 ml of a prehybridization solution was prepared:

- 1 % Na-dodecyl sulphate
- 1 M NaCl
- 5 \* Denhardt's solution

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The hybridization bag was filled with such an amount of the prehybridization solution that air bubbles could be easily removed therefrom, and the prehybridization solution was poured from the bag into a container with a scale. Such an amount of a carrier DNA (DNA from calf thymus, Boehringer Mannheim 104 167) was denatured that the concentration in the prehybridization solution became 100 µg/ml, by heating in a boiling water bath for 10 min and by cooling in an ice bath for 5 min. The denatured carrier DNA was added into the prehybridization solution, which was returned to the hybridization bag, the air bubbles were removed as carefully as possible and pre-

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hybridization was performed at 65 °C in a shaking water bath at least for 6 h.

The labelled probe was added into an equal amount of the carrier DNA as above, and denatured similarly. The prehybridization mixture was removed from the bag and the denatured probe as well as the carrier were added thereto. The mixture was returned to the bag, the air bubbles were removed and hybridization was performed overnight in similar conditions as the prehybridization.

Washing and autoradiography

The hybridization mixture was removed from the bag and in its place 100 ml of washing solution was introduced:

- 1 % Na-dodecyl sulphate
- 2 \* SSC
- The mixture was stirred, the washing solution was poured away, and the washing was repeated. Subsequently 300 ml of the washing solution was taken into the bag and it was shaken for 30 min in a 65 °C water bath. The washing solution was poured away and the washing was repeated.
- The membranes were spread on glass plates and covered by plastic film. The autoradiography was performed by placing one on top of the other the membrane protected by the plastic film, the autoradiography film (Hyperfilm-MP, Amersham) and the amplifying plate (Cronex Quanta Fast Detail, Dupont) and by exposing 1-2 days at -80 °C.
  - EXAMPLE 4. Preparation of the gene bank from S.

35 A gene bank was prepared into the  $\lambda$ -vector EMBL3 from the S. galilaeus DNA prepared as described above. The DNA was

galilaeus DNA

partly digested with Sau3A-endonuclease (Maniatis et al., p. 282-285) and fractionated by sucrose gradient centrifuging according to the same instructions. The ca 20 kb DNA fraction was ligated with the vector (EMBL3 BamHI) 5 Arms Cloning System, Promega Biotech.) according to the instructions of the manufacturer, and was packed to  $\lambda$ particles by using the Packagene-reagent kit of the same manufacturer according to the instructions of the manufacturer. The Escherichia coli strain GM2163 (E. coli 10 Genetic Stock Center, Department of Biology 255 OML, Yale University, New Haven, USA) was used as the host. The host cells were prepared for the infection according to the instructions of Maniatis et al. (p. 63). The host cells were infected with the obtained packing mixture and 15 spread onto the plates according to the instructions of Promega.

### EXAMPLE 5. Isolation of the acm sequence from the gene bank

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From 150 mm plates, on which infected host cells were present so that plaques formed by the  $\lambda$ -phage amounted to about 10000 per plate, the phage DNA was immobilized to Colony/Plaque Screen (New England Nuclear) membranes according to the instructions of the manufacturer, so that two membranes were prepared from each plate. The membranes so obtained were hybridized and autoradiographed by using the actIO.8 probe, as described above. Plaques giving a positive signal in autoradiography from both of the plates, were collected and the phages were eluted from them (Maniatis et al., p. 64).

In order to obtain pure positive phage populations a dilution was prepared from each of the candidates, which gave about 300 plaques/plate by infecting an *E. coli* host strain LE392 (Promega), the phage DNA was immobilized on

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the membranes as described above, and hybridized as above. One clearly separate plaque for each candidate was collected, wherefrom the phages were eluted, and the host strain LE392 was infected by using such a dilution that so called confluent lysis was obtained on the plates. Phage base solutions were prepared from these plates, the titers of which, i.e. the concentration of the phages were determined (typically  $10^{10}/\text{ml}$ ).

10 From each of the clones so obtained  $\lambda$ -phage was prepared in half a litre scale by infecting a NM538 host (Promega) according to the instructions described by Maniatis et al., p. 77-78.  $\lambda$ -phage DNA was prepared from the lysate according to the method of Kaslow (1986) with the modification that the phage DNA was precipitated with isopropanol rather than with polyethylene glycol (Hopwood et al. 1985a, p. 124).

#### EXAMPLE 6. Preparation of the acm probe

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The  $\lambda$ -DNA of the clones obtained was digested with BamHI endonuclease and it was fractionated by agarose gel electrophoresis, transferred onto a membrane, and hybridized using the actIO.8 probe as described above for the chromosomal DNA. One of the clones, designated  $\lambda$ -acm5, gave a ca 3 kb BamHI fragment, which gave a distinct hybridization signal; the fragment hybridizing with the other positive clones did not separate from the vector with BamHI endonuclease.

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 $\lambda$ -acm5-DNA was digested with BamHI endonuclease and the digest was fractionated by preparative agarose gel electrophoresis. The 3 kb BamHI fragment was isolated and purified as described above, and it was ligated into the plasmid vector pBR322 (Bolivar et al., 1977 and Sutclif-

fe, 1978) opened with BamHI endonuclease (Maniatis et al., p. 391). The plasmid is commonly available, a.o. in the *E. coli* strain ATCC 37017 of American Type Culture Collection.

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Competent *E. coli* HB101 cells were transformed with the ligation mixture (Hopwood *et al.* 1985a, p. 120) and among the obtained transformants a clone containing the 3 kb BamHI fragment was searched by preparing plasmid DNA from the clones in a small scale (Hopwood *et al.* 1985a, p. 85), by digesting the samples with BamHI endonuclease and by identifying the clones having the insert by agarose gel electrophoresis. The plasmid carrying the insert was designated pacm5, and it was prepared in a large scale, as described above for the plasmid pIJ2345. The probe, abbreviated acm, is the 3 kb BamHI fragment contained in the plasmid pacm5, which fragment was isolated as described for the actIO.8 probe from pIJ2345.

## 20 EXAMPLE 7. Preparation of the gene bank from S. purpurascens DNA

The gene bank was prepared from S. purpurascens DNA as described above for S. galilaeus, however so that the vector used was  $\lambda$ -EMBL4, and as the vector preparation " $\lambda$ -EMBL4 BamHI Arms", RPN.1254X, Amersham International plc was used.

## Screening of the gene bank of S. purpurascens and mapping of the clones

The clones giving a positive hybridization signal were screened from the *S. purpurascens* gene bank by the same procedure as described above for the *S. galilaeus* gene bank by using the *acm* probe, the clones were purified,

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and phage base solutions were prepared thereof. From the clones  $\lambda$ -DNA was prepared as described above, and the clones were mapped for some restriction endonuclease recognition sites (Maniatis et al., p. 374-378). The so obtained map from the clones, which were designated by the abbreviation rdm and a serial number, is given in the Figure 3.

EXAMPLE 9.

Transfer of the S. purpurascens DNA sequences to S. galilaeus and discovery of the producer of hybrid antibiotics

The transfer of the inserts of the clones obtained into

Streptomyces galilaeus was initiated for detection of
possible new products. As S. galilaeus evidently has a
fairly strong restriction system, it was not possible to
transform the ligation mixtures directly to S. galilaeus,
but the clones had to be transferred first to an easily
transformable Streptomyces host, as which S. lividans
TK24 (Hopwood et al. 1985a, p. 266 and Kieser et al.
1982) was used, which strain was obtained from professor
D.A. Hopwood, John Innes Institute (Norwich, UK).

The recombinant phage  $\lambda$ -rdm6 was digested with EcoRI (Boehringer Mannheim) according to the instructions of the manufacturer. An insert of ca 12 kb was run separate from the arms on 0.5% SeaPlaque LGT agarose gel (FMC Corporation) at 8 V voltage overnight. The insert DNA was recovered from the gel using a GeneClean reagent kit (Biol01) according to the instructions of the manufacturer.

The Streptomyces plasmid pIJ486 (Ward et al., 1986; the plasmid was obtained from prof. Hopwood, John Innes Institute) was linearized with EcoRI as the recombinant

東京は大学者では、丁丁子の中華では、100mmのでは、丁丁子のでは、丁丁子のでは、「日本のでは、丁丁子のでは、丁丁子のでは、丁丁子のでは、「丁丁子」のでは、「丁丁子」のでは、「丁丁子」のでは、「丁丁子」の

phage and treated with alkaline phosphatase (Calf Intestinal Alkaline Phosphatase, CIAP, Boehringer Mannheim 713023) as follows: 10 µg of linear vector DNA and 0.5 U of CIAP were incubated in a +37 °C water bath in a volume of 100 µl (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8 and 0.1 mM EDTA) 0.5 h. CIAP was inactivated by heating at 65 °C for ca 0.5 h and by extracting subsequently two times with a neutral phenol-chloroform (1:1) mixture. The plasmid was precipitated with 2-propanol, washed with ca 70% ethanol and dissolved in TE buffer (about 1 µg/µl).

The plasmid pIJ486 and the insert-DNA were ligated with T4-DNA-ligase (Boehringer Mannheim) according to the instructions of the manufacturer in a volume of 20  $\mu$ l.

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The ligation mixture was transformed into S. lividans TK24 protoplasts stored in -20 °C. The preparation and the transformation of the protoplasts was performed according to the method described by Hopwood et al. 20 (1985a) (pages 12-14 and 108-109). After 1 day, thiostreptone (tsr) was added onto the plates as a water suspension, 0.5 mg/plate. The regenerated protoplasts were collected with tooth picks after ca 6 days to ISP4 plates (Difco), on which 50 µg/ml of thiostreptone had 25 been added. Some of the culture was transferred with a loop from the ISP4 plates to Falcon tubes, which contained 3 ml of TSB medium (Oxoid Tryptone Soya Broth 30 g/l) and 5 µg/ml of thiostreptone, in order to maintain the selection pressure. After 3 days, plasmids were 30 isolated from 42 cultures according to the method described by Kieser (1984). 8 of the isolated plasmids carried the insert. One of these (pH2008) was grown in 500 ml of TSB medium, and the plasmid was isolated therefrom according to the method of Kieser. The map of the 35 plasmid pH2008 is given in Figure 4.

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The modifications to the above mentioned transformation method used for S. lividans, which are needed for the transformation of Streptomyces galilaeus, have been described earlier (Ylihonko, K. Thesis for M.Sc., University of Turku, 1986). To prepare the protoplasts, SGYEME medium was used instead of YEME medium (see above), wherein 0.8 % of glycine had been added. 1-2 µg of the plasmid preparation was transformed into the S. galilaeus strain ATCC 31615. One transformant was obtained.

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The strain ATCC 31615/pH2008 was grown in El growth medium, whereto 5 µg/ml of thiostreptone had been added and after 7 days the products were extracted from the culture with a toluene-methanol (1:1) mixture. As a control, the products of the strain ATCC 31615 were isolated correspondingly. About 1 ml of the culture was used for the isolation of the products, wherefrom the cells were separated from the medium by centrifuging. Only the cells were used for the extraction, because only a small part of the products were left in the supernatant. The products were separated from the toluene phase of the extract by thin layer chromatography, using as the eluant the mixture toluene - ethyl acetate methanol - formic acid (50:50:15:10). It was found that the strain ATCC 31615/pH2008 had formed anthracyclines, which the host strain ATCC 31615 does not produce naturally.

It was established that the characteristics were derived
from the plasmid by retransforming the recombinant plasmid pH2008 to ATCC 31615, whereby it was found that the
new compounds were formed in this strain as well. Growing
the recombinant strain in the production medium El
without the selection pressure caused by thiostreptone
led to the disappearance of the production of the new
anthracyclines.

The hybrid products were hydrolyzed by heating them for 0.5-1 hours in 0.1M HCl solution. The aglycones were separated on a TLC plate treated with oxalic acid, and they were compared to the aglycones produced by the strain ATCC 31615. Chloroform-acetone (10:1) was used as the eluent. The Rf values given in the Table I were obtained for the products:

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- = The strain does not contain the product

+ = The strain produces a product corresponding to the Rf value

Table I.

EXAMPLE 10. Production of hybrid antibiotics and purification of the aglycones

#### Fermenting

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S. galilaeus ATCC 31615/pH2008 was inoculated from the ISP4 + tsr plate to a shaking flask, which contained 60 ml of the medium E1, whereto 5  $\mu$ g/ml of thiostreptone had

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been added, and it was grown for 4 days in a shaker at 300 rpm at a temperature of 30 °C. A 7 l fermentor was prepared, which contained 5,5 l of the medium El, 5 ml of anti-foam substance (Polypropylenglycol P 2000, Fluka) and 5  $\mu$ g/ml of thiostreptone. The fermentor was inoculated with the above mentioned preculture and fermented for 5 days at a temperature of 30 °C by stirring at 350 rpm and using an air supply of 6 l/min.

#### 10 Extraction

A 10 l reaction flask was prepared for the extraction by adding thereto:

	Celatom <sup>(F)</sup>	400	g
15	$Na_2HPO_4$ . $2H_2O$	47	g
	citric acid	24.4	g
	water	500	g
	methylethylketone (MEK)	3	1

The culture broth was transferred from the fermentor by vacuum to the extraction container and stirred for 45 min. The mixture was filtered in a Büchner funnel and the filter cake was washed with 300 ml of MEK. In the filtrate, 500 g of NaCl was dissolved and was allowed to separate overnight in a separatory funnel.

The lower phase (water phase) was removed. The upper phase was run into a container, whereto  $400~\rm g$  of  $Na_2SO_4$  had been weighed. It was stirred for 10 min and filtered in a Büchner funnel. The filter cake was washed with 200 ml of MEK.

#### Separation of the glycosides

35 The raw MEK extract so obtained was evaporated by rotary evaporator to nearly dryness. 200 ml of toluene was added and evaporated to dryness. The mixture was filled with

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toluene to 150 ml. 150 ml of isopropanol, 150 ml of 0.1  $_{\rm M}$  HCl and 75 ml of hexane were added.

The mixture was transferred into a separatory funnel,

5 stirred and the layers were allowed to separate. The
lower layer (water phase) was taken into another separatory funnel, and 40 ml of dichloromethane was added
thereto. It was stirred and the phases were allowed to
separate. The lower phase (dichloromethane) was run into

10 a container, which contained 30 ml of 1M phosphate buffer, pH 7.0. To the water phase left in the separatory
funnel 10 ml of dichloromethane was added, extracted, and
the MeCl<sub>2</sub> phase was pooled with the MeCl<sub>2</sub> phase under the
above mentioned phosphate buffer. To the toluene phase of

15 the first extraction 75 ml of isopropanol and 150 ml of
0,1 M HCl were added.

The extraction into methylene chloride was repeated as above and the methylene chloride phases were combined.

The methylene chloride solution was evaporated in a rotary evaporator to dryness. About 10 ml of methanol was added and reevaporated to dryness. The evaporation residue was dissolved in 200 ml of toluene.

#### 25 Hydrolysis of the glycosides to aglycones

To the above obtained toluene solution 200 ml of 0.1M HCl was added, stirred and the water phase was separated. The water phase was incubated for 2 hours in a 85 °C water bath. The solution was cooled and it was extracted three times with 100 ml of toluene. The combined toluene phase was then extracted with 150 ml of 0.1M Na-phosphate buffer, pH 7.0. The toluene phase was evaporated to dryness in a rotary evaporator, 20 ml of methanol was added, the mixture was reevaporated to dryness, and it was dissolved in 10 ml of toluene.

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#### Chromatographic separation of the aglycones

The aglycones were separated chromatographically in two steps. The first chromatographic run was performed in an oxalic acid - silica gel column as follows:

The oxalic acid - silica gel was prepared by mixing 100 g of Kieselgel 60 (Merck) with 200 ml of 0.25M oxalic acid, by removing most of the oxalic acid solution in a Büchner funnel and by drying the silica gel overnight in a 110 °C hot cupboard. The oxalic acid - silica gel so obtained was slurried in toluene and packed into a 4 cm diameter chromatographic column.

The aglycon mixture in toluene obtained above was applied to the column and eluted with a solution, which contained 10 % acetone in toluene. About 15 ml fractions were collected from the eluate and the fractions were analyzed by thin layer chromatography as described above. Fig. 5 shows a photograph of the thin layer so obtained, on the basis of which the eluate was divided into four fractions: I, II, III and IV.

The fractions I and II seemed to contain two main components, wherefore they were rechromatographed using
oxalic acid - silica gel, but the column used had a
diameter of 1.5 cm and length of ca 50 cm. For the elution, 5 % acetone in methylene chloride was used. Thus
the main components of the fractions I and II could be
purified, which were designated IA, IB, IIA and IIB.

The aglycones obtained were chrystallized from methanol.

#### Structure determination of the aglycones

The obtained aglycone fractions were characterized by thin layer chromatography, mass spectrometry and proton

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NMR. IA was found to be aklavinone, i.e. the aglycone produced by the host strain ATCC 31615. IB is  $\varepsilon$ -rhodomycinone, which is the aglycone produced by the gene donor strain S. purpurascens, as well as IIB, which is  $\beta$ -rhodomycinone. IIA is 10-decarbomethoxy aklavinone, which has been described as the product of chemical demethylation and decarboxylation of aklavinone (Tanaka et al., 1980), but the inventors have not found any information in the literature, that any microbe would produce it. III was found to be the 7-epimer of IIA, and it has evidently been formed in the connection with the hydrolysis.

The structure given in Fig. 6 in connection with the proton-NMR-spectrum was obtained for the aglycon IV, which structure the inventors have not found in the literature.

The aglycones IIA and IV are thus products, which are neither produced naturally by the gene recipient strain nor the donor strain, i.e. they are hybrid antibiotics. Aglycone IV is also absolutely new.

# EXAMPLE 11. Production of the hybrid antibiotics and purification of the glycosides

25 Fermenting, extracting and separation of the glycosides was performed as in the Example 10.

## Purification of the glycosides IVA and IVB

2 ml of the above obtained glycoside extract was applied as a narrow band onto a thin layer chromatography plate (20 cm x 20 cm x 0.5 mm, Kieselgel 60, Merck). The plate was eluted with the eluant chloroform:methanol:acetic acid (20:5:1). The compounds IVA (yellow product, Rf value 0.40) and IVB (yellow product, Rf value 0.55) were scratched from the plate and extracted into methanol.

### Partial hydrolysis of the glycosides

About 200 ml of the glycoside extract was extracted by adding 200 ml of 0.05M HCl, by stirring and separating the water phase. The water phase was incubated for 30 min on a 55 °C water bath. After the incubation the solution was neutralized by adding 20 ml of 1M phosphate buffer, pH 7.

10 The solution was extracted three times with 100 ml of chloroform. The chloroform phase was evaporated to dryness and dissolved in 20 ml of dichloromethane.

#### Purification of IVT

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IVT was purified chromatographically in two steps from the partly hydrolyzed glycoside fraction obtained above. Both of the steps were performed in a silica gel column.

- 20 In the first step Kieselgel 60 was slurried into dichloromethane and packed into a column of 4 cm diameter. The glycoside mixture obtained above was applied to the column and eluted with the eluant dichloromethane:methanol:acetic acid (100:20:1). About 15 ml fractions were 25 collected from the eluate and the fractions were analyzed by thin layer chromatography using the eluant chloroform: methanol: acetic acid (20:5:1). The fractions containing mainly IVT (yellow product, Rf 0.21) were pooled. Acetic acid was extracted from the pooled fractions into 30 water by neutralizing the solution with 1M NaOH solution. The yellow dichloromethane phase was evaporated to dryness and dissolved in 2 ml of methanol, which was mixed with 20 ml of toluene.
- 35 The anthracycline in the toluene-methanol solution was applied in the second step onto a chromatography column prepared from Kieselgel 60 slurried in toluene. The

column was eluted with the eluant toluene:methanol (1:1) and ca 15 ml fractions were collected. On the basis of thin layer chromatography the fractions containing IVT were selected as above. The fractions were combined and evaporated to dryness.

Structure determination of the glycosides IVA, IVB and IVT

10 IVA, IVB and IVT were found to give aglycon IV when hydrolyzed with 1M HCl on a boiling water bath. IVA and IVB were found to give IVT when hydrolyzed with 0.05M HCl for 30 min on a 55 °C water bath. By this treatment IVT converted in small amounts to aglycone. On the basis of the mass and HNMR spectra (Figs 8 and 9) IVT proved to be a glycoside with one sugar, the sugar moiety of which is rhodinose.

#### Biotransformation of glycoside IVB to IVA

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About 1 mg of IVB was dissolved in 1 ml of methanol.

days in El medium, was washed by centrifuging and suspending the cells into 60 ml of a physiological saline solution and transferred to a shaking flask. IVB dissolved in methanol was added to the flask and the flask was shaken for 6 h at 300 rpm at a temperature of 30 °C. After incubation, the products were extracted from the culture as in the Example 9. On the basis of thin layer chromatography, IVB was found to have converted to IVA.

It has been found that the strain ATCC 31615 under these conditions converts aclacinomycin B to A (Hoshino et al., 35 1983). The reaction has been found to occur also in compounds whose aglycone moiety differs from aklavinone, but the sugar moiety is the same as in aclacinomycin B.

On the basis of this reaction it can be established that the structure of IVA corresponds to that of aclacinomycin A and the structure of IVB that of aclacinomycin B. Also the results obtained from the hydrolysis support this structure determination.

# EXAMPLE 12. Biological activity of the glycosides IVA, IVB and IVT

10 The activities of the compounds were determined by a cytotoxicity test, in which the ability of the compounds to inhibit growth of the mouse leukemia cell line L1210 (ATCC CCL 219) in vitro (Matsuzawa et al., 1981) was measured. As the comparative substance aclacinomycin A was used. The following ED<sub>50</sub> values were obtained for the compounds:

	Compound	ED <sub>so</sub> /nmol/l
20	Aclacinomycin A	10
	IVA	75
	IVB	24
	IVT	22

### DEPOSITED MICROORGANISMS

The following microorganism strains have been deposited according to the Budapest treaty to Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH (DSM). Mascheroder Weg 1 B, D-3300 Braunschweig, Germany.

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March 4, 1991
March 4, 1991

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WO 92/16629

Claims

- 1. DNA sequence useful in obtaining hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline group, characterized in that it has
- been isolated from a Streptomyces purpurascens bacterium producing anthracyclines and as transferred into a Streptomyces galilaeus host producing naturally glycosides of aklavinone, causes the production of such anthracyclines which are not produced naturally by this strain.

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- 2. DNA sequence as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it has been isolated from *Streptomyces purpurascens* strain ATCC 25489.
- 3. DNA sequence as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that it is the ca 12000 bp sequence between the two EcoRI-restriction endonuclease recognition sites of the plasmid pH2008, or a functional fragment thereof.
- 4. Recombinant-DNA-constructionion useful in obtaining hybrid antibiotics of anthracycline group, characterized in that the DNA-sequence according to the claims 1 to 3 is inserted into a vector which is amplified in microorganisms of the genus Streptomyces.

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- 5. Recombinant-DNA-construction according to the claim 4, characterized in that it is the plasmid pH2008, the restriction map of which is given in Fig. 4, and which can be isolated from *Streptomyces galilaeus* strain DSM 6403.
- 6. Streptomyces strain producing hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline group, characterized in that the recombinant-DNA-construction according to the claim 4 or 5
- has been introduced into a Streptomyces galilaeus strain naturally producing glycosides of aklavinone.

7. Streptomyces strain according to the claim 6, characterized in that the Streptomyces galilaeus strain used as the host and producing glycosides of aklavinone is ATCC 31615 or ATCC 31133.

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- 8. Streptomyces strain according to the claim 7, characterized in that the vector is pIJ486.
- 9. Streptomyces strain according to any one of the claims
  10 6 to 8, characterized in that the recombinant-DNA-construction is the plasmid pH2008.
  - 10. Streptomyces galilaeus DSM 6403.
- 11. Process for producing hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline group, characterized in that a Streptomyces strain according to any of the claims 6 to 9 is grown under conditions where the host strain naturally produces antibiotics, the produced antibiotics are separated from the growth medium and the hybrid antibiotics obtained are purified.
  - 12. Process according to the claim 11, characterized in that the produced compounds correspond to their structure to the following general formula:

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wherein  $R_{10}$  is H or OH,  $R_{11}$  is H or OH and  $R_4$ ' is H,

13. Process according to the claim 12, characterized in that the produced hybrid antibiotic is IVA, IVB or IVT, the structural formulas of which are

14. Compounds IVA, IVB and IVT, the structural formulas of which are

IVB

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#### AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 25 August 1992 (25.08.92); original claims 1 and 4 amended; other claims unchanged (5 pages)]

- 1. DNA sequence useful in obtaining hybrid antibiotics  $_{\mbox{Of}}$  the anthracycline group, characterized in that it has
- been isolated from a Streptomyces purpurascens bacterium producing anthracyclines, by
  - a) isolating from *S. galilaeus* DNA a fragment hybridizing with *act*10.8 probe, and
- b) using the fragment so obtained in the hybridization10 of S. purpurascens,
  - and as transferred into a *Streptomyces galilaeus* host producing naturally glycosides of aklavinone, causes the production of such anthracyclines which are not produced naturally by this strain.

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- 2. DNA sequence as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it has been isolated from *Streptomyces purpurascens* strain ATCC 25489.
- 3. DNA sequence as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that it is the ca 12000 bp sequence between the two EcoRI-restriction endonuclease recognition sites of the plasmid pH2008, or a functional fragment thereof.
- 4. Recombinant-DNA-construction useful in obtaining hybrid antibiotics of anthracycline group, characterized in that the DNA-sequence according to the claims 1 to 3 is inserted into a vector which is amplified in microorganisms of the genus Streptomyces.

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6403.

5. Recombinant-DNA-construction according to the claim 4, characterized in that it is the plasmid pH2008, the restriction map of which is given in Fig. 4, and which can be isolated from Streptomyces galilaeus strain DSM

- 6. Streptomyces strain producing hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline group, characterized in that the recombinant-DNA-construction according to the claim 4 or 5 has been introduced into a Streptomyces galilaeus strain naturally producing glycosides of aklavinone.
- 7. Streptomyces strain according to the claim 6, characterized in that the Streptomyces galilaeus strain used as the host and producing glycosides of aklavinone is ATCC 31615 or ATCC 31133.
  - 8. Streptomyces strain according to the claim 7, characterized in that the vector is pIJ486.
  - 9. Streptomyces strain according to any one of the claims 6 to 8, characterized in that the recombinant-DNA-construction is the plasmid pH2008.
- 20 10. Streptomyces galilaeus DSM 6403.
- 11. Process for producing hybrid antibiotics of the anthracycline group, characterized in that a Streptomyces strain according to any of the claims 6 to 9 is grown under conditions where the host strain naturally produces antibiotics, the produced antibiotics are separated from the growth medium and the hybrid antibiotics obtained are purified.

O.

12. Process according to the claim 11, characterized in that the produced compounds correspond to their structure to the following general formula:

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wherein  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{10}}$  is H or OH,  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{11}}$  is H or OH and  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{4}}^{\,\, \mathbf{1}}$  is H,

13. Process according to the claim 12, characterized in that the produced hybrid antibiotic is IVA, IVB or IVT, the structural formulas of which are

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(12.41)

14. Compounds IVA, IVB and IVT, the structural formulas of which are  $\,$ 

5 ОН 0 0 ОН Y ОН ОН OH Ö ÓН ОН 0 10 IVB IVA N (СН<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> N (CH<sub>3</sub>) 2 15 о <sup>о</sup>Н 20 25 ОН О ОН 30 ОН 0 ОН IVT 35 НΟ N (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

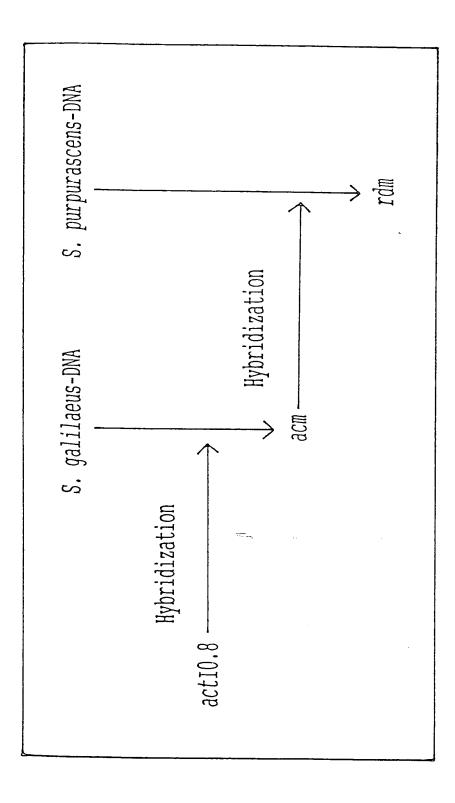


FIG. 1

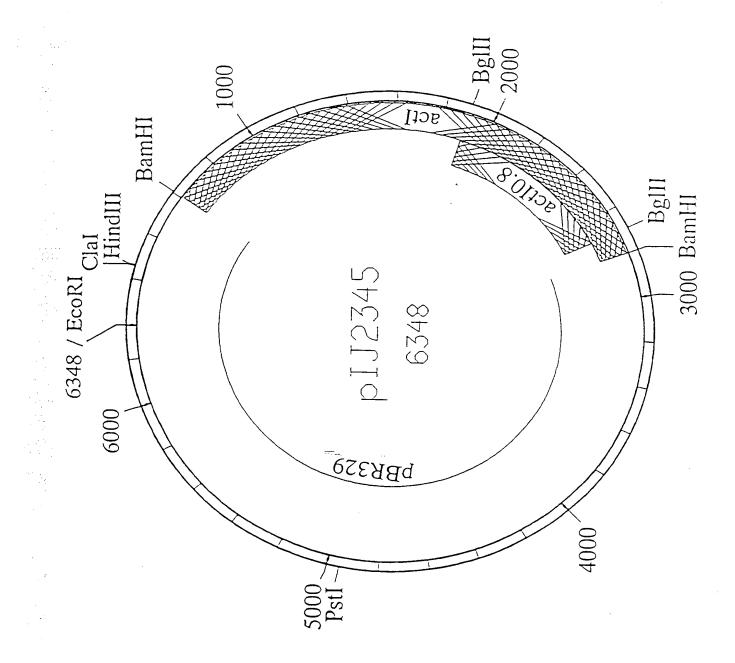


FIG. 2

			3/9				
BN B	B = BamHI N = NotI E = EcoRI X = XhoI P = PvuII	BN B		BN B	BN B	BN B	
Ш		ш— Ш—	B — E	BE	BE	B—	
N B N A D N B	BgIII	<b>Z</b> —	<b>Z</b> -	z-	Z-	z-	1 kb
B B N B	B B N B	M—	BB NB	B B N B		BBNB	FIG. 3
———×	<b>B</b> —					m_	
	rdm6	rdm7	rdm11	rdm12	rdm13	rdm14	

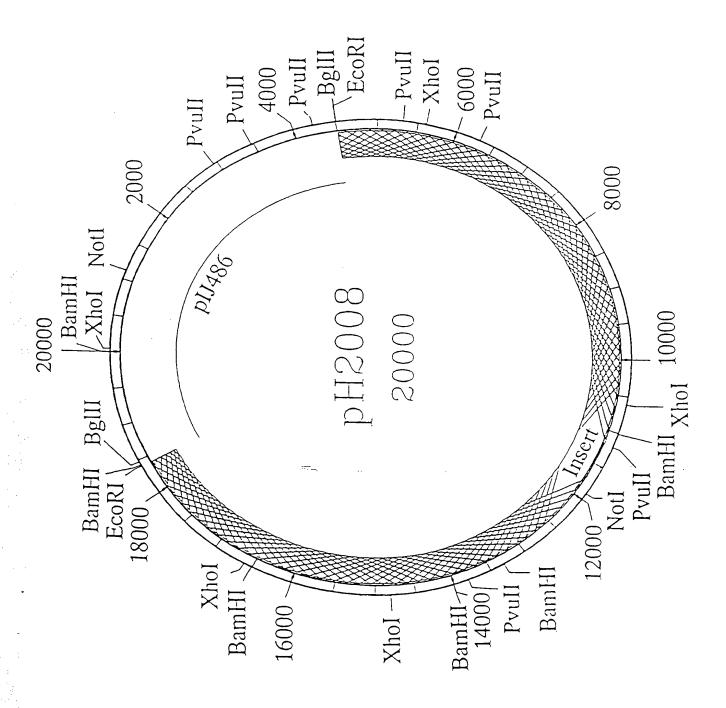


FIG. 4

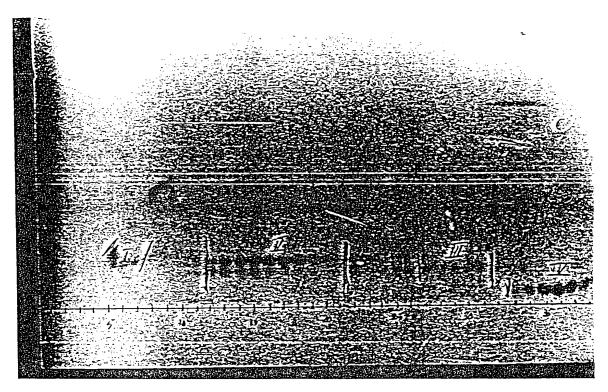
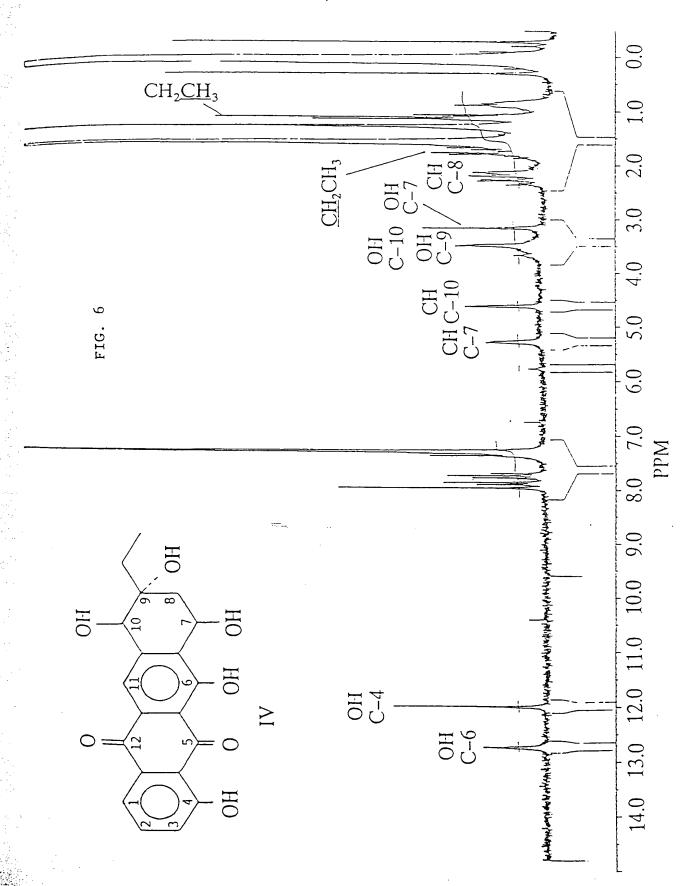
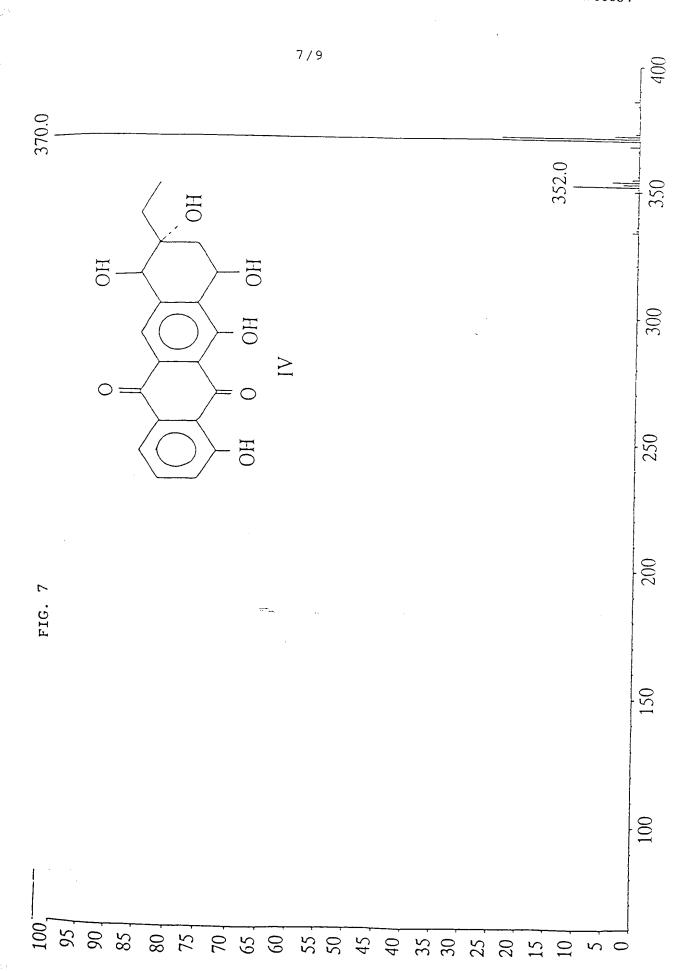
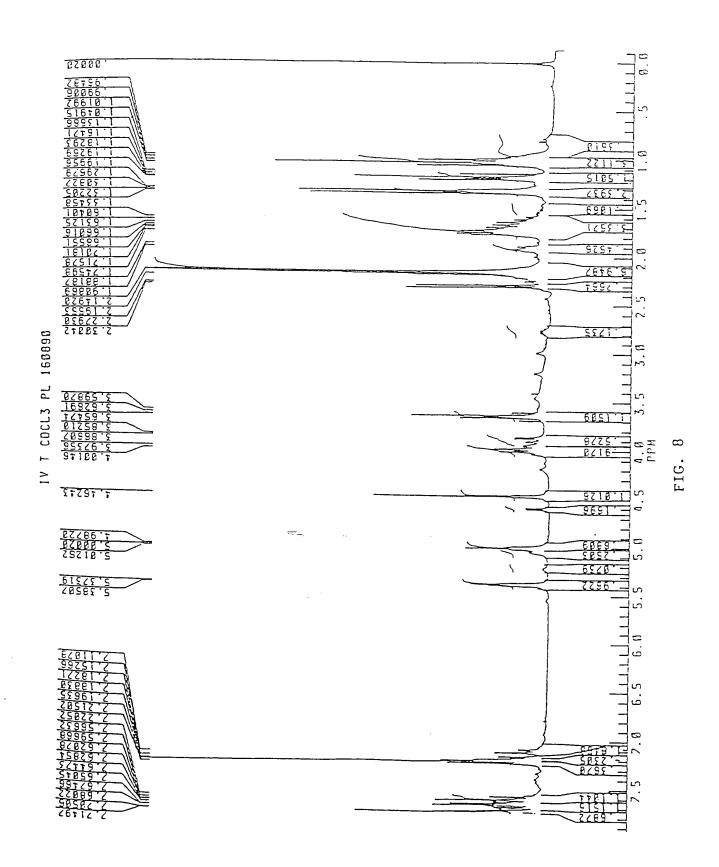


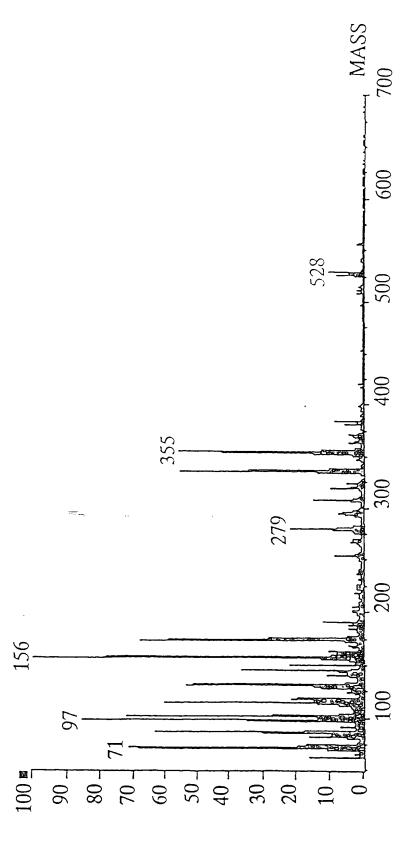


FIG. 5









ilg. 9

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/FI 92/00084

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classifi	cation symbols apply, indicate all) <sup>3</sup>	
according to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both No IPC5: C 12 N 15/31, C 12 P 19/56	ational Classification and IPC	
II FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum Documer	lassification Symbols	
Classification	123311Catton Symbols	
IPC5 C 12 N; C 12 P; C 07 K		
	than Minimum Documentation are Included in Fields Searched <sup>3</sup>	
SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above	·	
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT9		
Category Citation of Document,11 with indication, where app		Relevant to Claim No. 13
Y EP, A2, 0131181 (HOECHST AKTIENG 16 January 1985,	GESELLSCHAFT)	1,4,11, 13,14
see the whole document 		
V [D A] 0050704 /5 110551111111111111111111111111111111	D00115 0 003	
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al: "Homology between Strep	tomyces genes coding	13,14
for synthesis of different	polyketides used to	'
clone antibiotic biosynthet	ic genes",	
pp 818-821		
* Special categories of cited documents: 10	"I" later document published after	the international filing date
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after or priority date and not in confl cited to understand the principl	ict with the application but e or theory underlying the
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	^ document of particular relevant	ce, the claimed invention
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other seconds.	cannot be considered novel or o involve an inventive step	cannot be considered to
citation or other special reason (as specified)  Of document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"Y" document of particular relevant cannot be considered to involve document is combined with one ments, such combination being	an inventive step when the cormore other such docu-
"P" document published prior to the international filing date bu later than the priority date claimed	in the act	
IV. CERTIFICATION	- document member of the same	Parent ranning
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International S	earch Report
29th June 1992	1002 -0	7- 0.2
International Searching Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer	
OUED CO.	Carclina Pa	incranta
SWEDISH PATENT OFFICE  Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (January 1988)	Mikael G:son Bergstra	and

II DOCI	MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)	
ategory *	Citation of Document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to Claim No
Ϋ́	NATURE, Vol. 314, April 1985 D.A. Hopwood et al: "Production of hybrid antibiotics by genetic engineering", pp 642-644	1,4,11, 13,14
Y	BIOTECHNOLOGY, September 1984 Christopher R. Bailey et al: "Cloning a streptomyces clavuligerus genetic locus involved in clavulanic acid biosynthesis", pp 808-811	1,4,11,
A	EP, A2, 0299350 (BEHRINGWERKE AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) 18 January 1989, see the whole document	1-14
A	EP, A2, 0298385 (BEHRINGWERKE AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) 11 January 1989, see the whole document	1-14
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## ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.PCT/FI 92/00084

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report.

The members are as contained in the Swedish Patent Office EDP file on

29/05/92

The members are as contained in the Swedish Patent Office EDP file on

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_	he Swedish Patent O	ffice is in no wa	y tiable for thes	e particulars which	h are merely given	for the purpose of information.

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Pateni men	Publication date	
EP-A2- 0131181	85-01-16	AU-B- AU-D- CA-A- DE-A- JP-A- US-A-	578615 2981284 1244364 3323025 60036437 4713371	88-11-0 85-01-0 88-11-0 85-01-1 85-02-2 87-12-1
EP-A1- 0050724	82-05-05	AT-E-T- JP-A- US-A-	11142 57099200 4383037	85-01-1 82-06-1 83-05-1
EP-A2- 0299350	89-01-18	AU-B- DE-A- JP-A- US-A-	616366 3722698 1029338 4914191	91-10-2 89-01-1 89-01-3 90-04-0
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